



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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Testimony
In Support of Proposed Bill 842
An Act Requiring Jobs Impact Statements on Legislation Affecting
Employment in the State.

Commerce Committee
February 3, 2011

Senator Lebeau, Representative Berger, Senator Frantz, Representative Camillo, and distinguished members of the Commerce Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 824, An Act Requiring Jobs Impact Statements on Legislation Affecting Employment in the State.

As we all know, Connecticut has lost approximately 100,000 jobs since the beginning of the recession. For our economy not only to recover, but also to be competitive with those of other states, we must urgently address this issue and create an environment that will foster, rather than discourage, the creation of jobs.

As we review and cast our votes on legislation that affects our economy and the lives of our constituents, I believe we need accurate information about the potential impact of bills we review on jobs in Connecticut. Views on whether or not a bill will help create jobs or lead to job losses can often diverge widely, so having access to information that is as objective as possible would provide us valuable assistance as we assess the bills before us. This is why I support SB 842.

I would offer one comment. In my 26 years of working in large corporations, I saw many projects based on excellent, useful ideas that were never completed because they were

too complicated to implement. I believe the language of this bill does to an extent reflect the concern I express here, but I'd like to emphasize it. Not every piece of legislation can benefit enough from a jobs impact statement to warrant one. On the other hand, those which directly address taxes on businesses or business owners, mandates imposed on business activities, requirements for opening a business (to cite just a few examples), and quite a number of other significant areas certainly can.

I would therefore encourage you to define carefully the types of bills that would most benefit from such analyses, to remove any administrative or fiscal obstacles to this legislation.

Thanks again for your time and consideration on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gail Lavielle". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first name "Gail" being more prominent than the last name "Lavielle".

Gail Lavielle,
State Representative
143rd District